

# Keeping the Legacy Alive

How do you fill the shoes of a man who was an international speaker, author of more than 70 books, leader of a global ministry, and loved people so much he wanted everyone to know their value and purpose?

You don't, says Dr. Dave Burrow currently serves as Senior Pastor of Bahamas Faith Ministries International which was founded by the late world renowned visionary and leader Dr. Myles Munroe whom he succeeded.

"So when it came to filling his shoes I realize that I'm left and so somebody has to carry the vision on," Burrows said.

"And because I was there with him at the beginning and I was trained by him and I was developed by him and I developed my leadership potential, then it just made sense."

One of the foremost authorities in the world on Youth development and Youth Ministry and a lifelong Youth Ministry and Family ministry specialist with over



25 years of experience in Youth development, training and

Dr. Dave Burrows

Pastor mentoring Dave has pioneered many successful programs for youth and families affecting gangs, youth from all backgrounds, youth leaders around the world. Churches. Pastors and entire organizations and denominations.

He previously served as an advisor to the Baha-

#### Christmas Issue

Government mas Youth matters in his home country as Chairman of the National Youth Advisory Council on three occasions. In addition to serving in his current capacity, Dr. Burrows also serves as President of Dave **Burrows** Youth and Family International, Youth Alive Ministries and as founder and president emeritus of The Christian Youth Leaders Network and the Global Youth Ministry Leadership Network.

In upcoming issues of the Livewire Dr. Burrows will be contributing to the conversation on how we promote positive thinking.



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Venue: WIST, 4th Bridge Maracas Valley, St Joseph

Time: 5:00 - 8:30 pm

Courses: 1. Ministry to Family

2. Leadership Principles

Candidates: Pastors, Lay Counsellors, Sunday School

Teachers, Family Members, and Church

Leaders

#education **#WIST** 

#### **Course Descriptions**

#### **Ministry to Family**

This course examines the biblical model of family life and includes understanding the basis of Christian marriage and the divinely sanctioned role of parents in shaping the development of a child's God-given personality.

#### **Leadership Principles (Online)**

This course is an in-depth study of biblical principles of leadership, particularly as it relates to servant-leadership in the church. Insights are also obtained from the science of leadership. it will examine the history and developments in the field of leadership, current theories, components and qualities of leadership applied to the Christian leader in his role in the local church. Emphasis is placed on the personality, attitudes, the role and its functions, skills and spiritual characteristics required for effective leadership.

TT\$1,000.00 per course if the course is being done for credits.

TT\$700.00/US\$100.00 if the course is being audited.

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### Health Matters with Nicole Timothy

With my holistic approach to health, knowing that no matter what part of the world we are coming from, with the right supporting system, we can all share the common concern of the lack of nutrient-dense foods there are in our diets. It is a known fact by now that there's a never-ending chain of established supplemental companies that seem to echo similar health benefits from great and varied derivatives so to speak. However, we truly need to look carefully at what are the contents. This can be very difficult in many ways due to the fact that one has to face many channels to search for a meaningful and realistic view of health.

I am Nicole Timothy from St Augustine with a BSc in Foods and Nutrition along with a Holistic Wellness Certification. I have found a way to complement a high need in today's society where persons are faced with a spiral of challenges financially, socially, mentally and personally. In other words, we are thrown in different directions and still expect ourselves to maintain stability within one's skin. I beg to say that in many instances, this is not the case.

Having said all this is to drive home a very holistic approach, in my view, we should all be grounded on. On this note, I would like to share with you a journey I have had, which is not too much of a drag, with a very unique company called Neolife. Unique, I should say again this company is established on the globe for the last 60 years, spoken about in 21 different languages and exist in a little over 50 countries worldwide. Simply, the company follows nature's blueprint.

NeoLife's reputation for scientific excellence is so well established that their nutritional health systems or products have been used by researchers from such renowned bodies as the United States Department of Agriculture, UNESCO, and major universities and scientific institutions around the world. Due to the fact that their presence in the scientific community is so strong, NeoLife has been able to partner with the Stanford University Health Library to produce the annual NeoLife-



Arthur Furst Lecture Series on Nutrition & Disease Prevention and with the University of San Francisco to award the annual Arthur Furst Undergraduate Scholarship.



Through these ongoing programs, NeoLife is changing the face of health care and disease prevention through nutrition by actively supporting today's scientists and tomorrow's doctors. Hence, founded in 1976 by Dr Furst, the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) sits at the core of a worldwide network of leading scientists and research facilities, all dedicated to delivering optimum health based on nature's blueprint. Members of the SAB actively conduct leading-edge

#### **Editorial**

## **Welcome And Merry Christmas**

It is my great pleasure to launch Livewire newspaper in this very interesting time in Trinidad and Tobago, you just have to go on FACE-BOOK and see the negativity that is promoted and encouraged among our people and the rest of the world. To get likes you must post negative and harmful stuff, but, post something positive and everyone passes it like a 'full bus'.

I have begun the conversation and I continue to dialogue to push positive content on the television, radio and now newspapers. There are thousands of young people doing great things all throughout Trinidad and Tobago and I want to feature them and celebrate their greatest achievements.

In the communities we call' hot spots' there are great young lead-

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Phone: 1-868-701-5555

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thempowermentfoundation2001@gmail.com



ers and mentors that are doing good deeds all over the land. We must encourage the conversation to let your pen, voice and action be the change our nation needs. Let us not get caught up with the cares of this world that we lose our love for the world and our humanity for mankind.

Allow the season of Christmas and the light of Christ to shine over the dark corners in our lives. As we celebrate Christmas. Remember this is the reason for the season. Give love to your fellow men and women allow yourself though Christ to be as beacons of love and hope. Let us all uninstall the hate, greed, jealousy, selfish needs, from our minds and emulate love



this season. Allow Jesus Christ in our daily lives, develop that deep relationship with him enough to reach out to others. You can be that change let's take over this nation with positive empowerment.

To assist the Youth empowerment foundation us in donating non-perishable food item, clothes (adult/kid/babies), household appliances. We also ask if you can donate however small to any republic bank. Account #:090239633931.

Please share information on your pages. Your love and consideration for our brother and sister in need are appreciated. Also call or WhatsApp me at contact: 701 -5555.

Livewire Newspaper is the newest motivational and inspirational newspaper to be launched in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean. This dynamic publication was created to motivate and inspire its readers to become better persons and empower them to self-actualise in business, community, spiritual, physical, educational and family pursuits. The Livewire is currently a monthly Newspaper which features articles written by renowned motivational speakers from across the globe, a few of which are Mr. Zig Ziglar, Dr. Myles Monroe and Mr. Andrew Young and most importantly, news coverage that zooms in on the positive happenings in today's world. The entire mantra of the newspaper is to simply encourage the readers to Dream Big, Think Big and you will Win Big. In our first issue, we published 40,000 copies which were circulated in the Caribbean and foreign markets. Feel free to email us your articles, poems, testimonies etc at livewirepublication@outlook.com

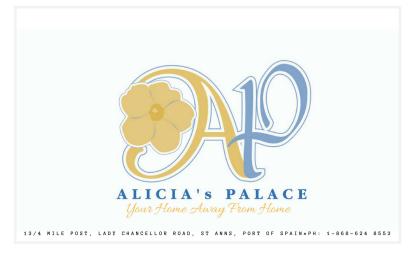
research and are regularly published in prestigious scientific journals.

SAB members and research on their products are regularly published in leading scientific journals, including Journal of the American College of Nutrition, the International Journal of Toxicology, the FASEB Journal, and the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. The SAB seal guarantees you the finest, safest, most effective products in the world.

My personal connection to Neolife started in 1998. I started with the use of the product in a small way mainly between my mother and myself. It was a small usage I considered for maintenance. In 2008 my mom was diagnosed with third stage colon

cancer and decided to undertake chemotherapy treatment only to be given a few months to live by the doctor. Saddened but not broken, there was a voice within me saying "Don't stop, keep using whatever little" and so I did. Yes, I saw her finger and toenails became darkened, but when the treatment came to an end, my mom continued with "whatever little". Natural colour returned in her finger and toenails and hey, you know what, it seems like the diagnosis of a few months never came through. Her life continued as well as mine and I reiterated that she just needed to maintain.

Presently, I am undergoing avid reading and researching to understand the biological understanding of how well our bodies ought to re-



ceive the nutrients in our foods so that the many processes can naturally take place at the cellular level. I am afraid to say that many are lost without having the right compass to steer in the direction they ought to take. Therefore, I have set myself on this path to ease the concerns and enlighten who wish to find many unanswered questions. Simply said, the answer lies in the truest form, as to what and how our body requires complete nutrients from the human food chain. That is to say,

we can receive our critical nutrients and discover how our bodies can be assisted with more than maintenance but rather with healthful servings on a daily basis which can be a wise investment on one's health.

#### **Contact Information:-**

Nicole Timothy **Nutrition Consultant** Holistic Wellness Coach (868) 368-2727 or Whatsapp nicoletimothy1@gmail.com Company connection to order:https:// shopneolife.com/ prolifehealth Web link Address:https:// www.facebook.com/ nicole.timothy.752

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#### Why Spiritual G.P.S

by Dr. Simon Siewsaran

God's first recorded words to man were "Adam where are thou" in other words what's your location?

So when God asked "Where are you?" it was much more than a geographical question.

God is asking us the same question today.

He wants to know where you are in ful-filling His purposes for your life. your calling. and the goals He's directed you to achieve.

At the beginning of every New Year, one reexamines objectives, sharpen goals and pray for God's blessing.

We often use a GPS device as a map, especially when travelling to a new place. Whilst a GPS is seen to be a modern gadget the concept is not.

God's positioning system was long established before man's angulates
your position on the
planet so
you would
not get
lost

We are in need of a spiritual GPS –it can be a dangerous thing to be wrongly positioned in life.



and at the right time.

Many lose the way and wander through a year.

Not knowing where they're at, where they're going and how to get there.

Position yourself to hear from God ... calibrating your mind and connecting your spirit deeply to GOD through His WORD

It's the norm to depend on physical positioning and neglect spiritual positioning.

Take note - man-made GPS systems depend on satellites that circle the earth.

Ours depend on the heavenly place where our LORD resides.

Man-made GPS do sometimes make mistakes and is fallible.



global satellite system (GPS)

FYI...A GPS is a device that, with the use of satellites, tri-

Today there's a great need for divine positioning in order to navigate the days ahead.

Turbulent times are

upon us, political uncertainties, economic hardships, extreme weather and explosive change to name a few.

Need to be at the right place



But you can trust God's GPS... It's infallible, inerrant and eternal

Don't fall into the snare of relying on statistics and projections from man-made systems.

I highly recommend that you make God's Word your spiritual GPS.

For the scriptures are meant to guard and guide every area of life.

The only book in print that is fulfilling is being fulfilled and brings fulfilment is the Bible.

Because of the crucial and critical stage, we are in.

This book of scriptural coordinates acts as a quick navigational compass that can help determine the direction for the year 2020 and beyond.

Informative and engaging while challenging the reader to go deeper as it connects the dots.

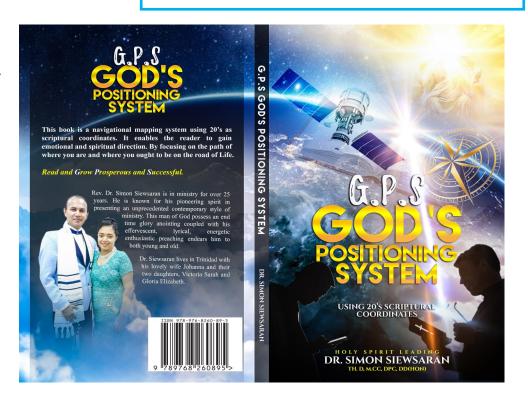
Making God's Words real and relevant by interlinking the 20's in scriptures to everyday living.

It's like opening a door of opportunity, to escape and move from the place where you at, to the place where God intended you to be.

So program in the scriptural coordinates and follow the Holy Spirit's leadership for guidance and success.

# **Romans 1:20**

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.



Remember to keep your spiritual **GPS** turned on at all times.





#### A FATHER:

BY CHRISTOPHER DIDIER

IS ONE WHO ENJOYS
CREATING YOU

ONE WHO CLAIMS OWNERSHIP OF YOU

ONE WHO CANNOT WAIT FOR YOU TO BE BORN

ONE WHO LOVES YOU
IF YOU ARE DAUGHTER OR SON

A FATHER IS ONE WHO HELPS MOTHER WITH YOUR CARES

ONE WHO CAN COPE WHEN YOU SHED YOUR TEARS

ONE WHO DOESN'T MIND YOUR EXPENSES

ONE WHO IS THERE TO SEE YOUR CHANGES

A FATHER IS ONE WHO MAKES HIMSELF AN UPRIGHT FELLOW

ONE WHO IS AN EXAM-



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ONE WITH WHOM
YOU GET ALONG

ONE WHO IS BOTH IF THERE IS NO MOTH-ER

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## HEAVEN HELP US!

I sat there in my living room, doing some paperwork planning our upcoming Carols by Candlelight event which is to be held in Chaguanas on the 15th of November in 2015. The re-run of Crime watch was being televised. I heard my second daughter exclaim,

"mummy watch this" as I looked up, there was this tall strapped man beating and kicking a woman on the ground.

When he kicked her the second time, she literally moved about a meter sliding across the floor with the impact of the kick, my jaw dropped and I covered my face in shock and disbelief. Tears came to my eyes oh my God I have two daughters what if, I could not allow myself to think, what If?

That incident evoked many issues that have been troubling me, it's like it took a piece of my soul. The video brought back to my mind an incident many years ago when I saw some young men stoning a dog; the sound of the stone hitting the defenceless animal, the memory of the frighten dog running away from his attackers; my blood ran cold as I stood up and looked at them in horror. It took a few minutes before they saw me

and sheepishly began to walk away.

The woman in the video did



not attempt to run, she was desperately trying to fend the onslaught.

a woman in a situation like this where she will allow herself to be a victim of such abuse both physical, emotional only God knows what else. Did she leave her parents home to make a life with this man without her parents' approval, does she now fear she has nowhere to turn? Is she illiterate, unemployed, have children to take care of?

Why in God's name is she allowing herself to be abused and humiliated in this manner? As the story goes and from the behaviour of this despicable man, it was not the first time she was being beaten. I can't get over the way he walked and paused around her with his hands behind his back surveying her as someone of superior authority would view the actions of his subordinates.

He was confident and comfortable in his actions, he feared no one. Thank God for heard it was recorded that



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others would see the inhumane behaviour of a despicable, troubled individual.

My daughter kept asking does she have brothers or a father does anyone know about this. There is the man who was sitting at the table with her who just got up and walked out of the room; even the two ladies did what little they could while he just walked out.

I would really like to know why what could drive a person to see someone they knew being beaten and just walk away. To you, I say you are inexcusable for what occurred that horrific evening. Shame on you.

The Heart Of a Sister Foundation conducts mentorship classes in primary schools. Our biggest challenge at present is the lack of self-worth or self-esteem among young girls of standard four and five. It is alarming to hear them speak about themselves in the most negative ways or the way in which they bear the scars of their parents' broken relationships.

They feel responsible for their parents' fights and departures, one girl said just two weeks ago; "the reason my parents fight and quarrel is that I was born"; too many of the other children supported her response. Trinidad and Tobago, mothers and fathers, churches and society; are we hearing their cry?. What are we doing to alleviate this problem?

Only God sees behind closed doors how many cases of this same type of abuse is taking place. Not forgetting men and boys are also victims of abuse. We must find a way to stem this scourge on our land. If these young girls and boys are not taught to love and respect themselves now, at an early age; it just maybe they will end up in the same position as the young woman seen in the video.

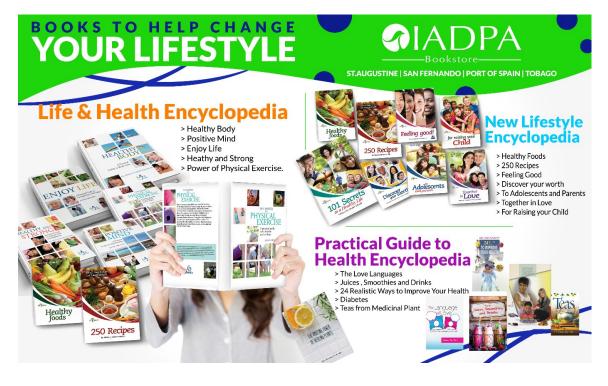
To my fellow sisters out there I say to you, not even a football should be kicked that way. You are precious, you are priceless, Christ gave his life for you.

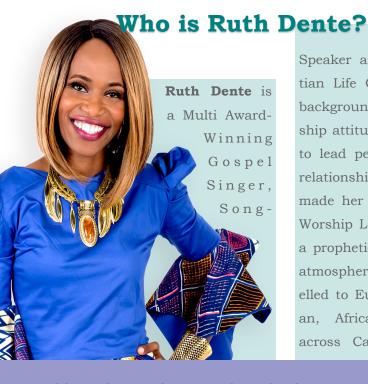
Rise up my sister be the person God has created you to be.

Men, be the man God has called you to be, protect and respect, it's your role.

I have fallen cried been angry and afraid, but even when I was hurting I always found a way to keep going. A strong woman never gives up! heartofasisterfoundation1@gmail.com







Speaker and Certified Christian Life Coach. Her diverse background, contagious worship attitude and her passion to lead people into a deeper relationship with Jesus has made her a highly requested Worship Leader. Ruth carries a prophetic anointing to shift atmospheres. She has travelled to Europe, the Caribbean, Africa, the USA and across Canada sharing her

writer,

Dynamic

gifts.

Born on the beautiful island of Trinidad and raised in Canada, Ruth began writing songs, sing-

#### **Ruth's Music Awards & Award Nominations:**

- Glass Achievement Awards Winner Best Female
- Vocalist of the Year, 2017 Glass Achievement Awards Winner Artist of the Year, 2017
- Glass Achievement Awards Winner Best Female Vocalist of the Year, 2015
- Glass Achievement Awards Winner Caribbean Artist of the Year, 2015
- GMA Covenant Awards Gospel Album of the Year Nominee "Grace", 2015
- GMA Covenant Awards Gospel Song of the Year Nominee " Worthy", 2015 GMA Covenant Awards - Inspirational Album of the

Dente focuses on the lyrics and writes with intent. She wants the listener to experience the power, reality and love of God in every line of her songs. In her words, "Long after you have heard the tune, it remains in your spirit as a message to you from God." Ruth is the founder and a lead vocalist of Morning Star Voices, her family worship band. She is also the Founding Director of a children's vocal band, Chosen Generation and a charitable Musical Awareness Initiative, called Hope Streams which helps children DISCOVER, DE-VELOP and EXCEL their musical skills at an early age. Ruth's background includes

ing with her school choirs for

competitions and singing with

her church choir at a very early

age. As a songwriter, Ruth

studies of voice and music theory through the Royal Conservatory of Music. She is a Registered Music Teacher and Director with Music Together® (New Jersey). Ruth Dente has had multiple features in Destiny Magazine, a Kingdom Lifestyle Magazine. Her ministry continues to touch lives and affect change in her community.

Ruth Dente has released six music albums. She is a 2X



Glass Awards Female Vocalist of the Year winner and have also received numerous GMA Covenant Award nominations. Her first book "Forty Days to Freedom", is set to be released in 2020. She has seen God heal and deliver individuals and families through her ministry and have shared many of the empowering testimonies in her book. The following is a quote from her book "Whatever you do, do it with all that is within you. If you are going to sing – Sing with Purpose! Sing with Passion! Sing with Power! You will inspire many."

When she's not on stage, Ruth enjoys spending time with her husband and their three beautiful girls. An entrepreneur at heart, she started her own fashion line, "Faith in Bold" in 2019. Ruth loves sewing, event planning, photography, travelling and the list goes on. She certainly believes that with God, all things are possible!





# Honest Thoughts with Lincoln

**Lincoln Douglas** 

#### BE REAL A FORMULA FOR LIVING IN A MULTIETHNIC SOCIETY

There is no doubt that this Nation of Trinidad and To-bago needs a reorganizing from the ground up.

While Trinidad and Tobago has always been a melting pot of cultures, it is possible that for persons who have never left their communities or interact only with others like themselves, our views of each other and each other's communities

can be very misleading and sometimes flat out wrong.

Being REAL is intended to help us make a change in how the various social/ethnic groups, see, understand and interact with each other. The final outcome is that we would change our behaviours toward each other and be better functioning and productive society.

#### Vision

What we need is a culturally harmonious Trinidad and To-bago in which national identity is understood to be an amalgamation of many cultures. Not a blend as in a blending machine or the old sixties song... what we need is a great big American pot, big enough

to take the world and all its got, keep it stirring for a hundred years or more, turn out coffee-coloured people by the score... We need where every creed and race (even though not a legitimate concept) know who they are, remain who they want to be and working harmoniously, a la a salad. We can do this by providing knowledge through experiences, and awareness through personal encounters with other persons/ cultures. Leaders need to speak the truth about history and teach the truth about groups of people, support the foundational institutions such knowledge creation, wealth creation, social trust, health, family and community identity. When these things become the priority of our civilization it will lead to changes in how various social groups and how they interact with each other within the nation

So I am hoping that Be
REAL will be a way to
affect

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**Be**haviour change – willing to change one's behaviour towards other cultures as it relates to diversity

Respect – for others and their culture

**E**mpathy – emotional understanding of how different situations affect different groups



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#### NGO SPOTLIGHT

# Global Network for the Advancement of Single Mothers

Global Network for the Advancement of Single Mothers was founded in April 24, 2016 but became fully incorporated as an NGO on November 11, 2018.

The group was founded by Rachel O. S. Edmund out of a desire to help single mothers who were employed but still found it difficult to make ends meet. With the hope of bettering the lives of single mothers in TnT will be realized as we use the resources that are found within the 1000+ and growing membership to raise our sisters up. We are no longer clamouring for the assistance from the fathers nor the assistance of the legislature or armed forces.

The time has come for us to truly be our sisters' keepers. We are not going to beg a man to stand up to his responsibilities or beg the courts to enforce the law. The system is failing and has failed many of us. We are not saying that fathers are not important or that we don't need them, we are saying that we are tired of having to beg them to do what should come naturally to them as men.

As the many women who have gone before us have modelled we are saying that we don't necessarily like the hand that we have been dealt BUT we can make it on our own.

We will change the mind-sets of women from that of combative to that of supportive, diplomatic and self-sufficient. We will create entrepreneurs and business savvy mothers because the workplace does not empathize with our struggles and does not treat us as the human beings that we are.

We will raise our children to be better than we are. We will support each other and build each other.

We have re-launched and revitalized our blog **Single Moms Speak** which allows single mothers to access stories, tips and tricks to motherhood whilst attempting to educate the reader on the very ugly side of parenting, the legislature and so much more. We hope to partner with a news outlet so that we can begin the

national conversation on single motherhood by way of a television series.

Where to find us:

Website: www.ttsmart.org

Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/singlemotherstt/">https://www.facebook.com/singlemotherstt/</a>

Facebook Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/</a> singlemotherstt/

Wordpress Blog: Single Moms Speak <a href="https://wordpress.com/posts/my/singlemothersttblog.wordpress.com">https://wordpress.com/posts/my/singlemothersttblog.wordpress.com</a>

FundMeTnT: <a href="https://fundmetnt.com/campaign/62/ongoing-fundraiser">https://fundmetnt.com/campaign/62/ongoing-fundraiser</a>

Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/">https://www.instagram.com/</a>
ttsinglemothersassociation/

Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/TTSMART2017">https://twitter.com/TTSMART2017</a>

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/tt-single-mothers-rt-ttsmart-44406518b

YOUTUBE: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/">https://www.youtube.com/channel/</a>

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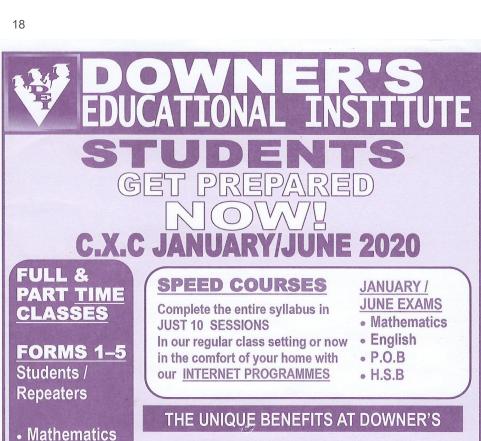
#### What to Donate:

FundMeTnT account in the name of Trinidad and Tobago Single Mothers' Association for Restoration and Transformation (CASH ONLY)

Food and Clothing Bank Donations (CALL FOR PICKUP OR DROPOFF)

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- Acceptance a willingness to acknowledge each other's cultural expression without judgement
- Learning seeking accurate information on each other and acquiring skills to treat with each other with more respect and empathy Subscribing to these values will make our nation more Diversity Competent.

Facilitate a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other's cultures in the wider population

Address ethnic issues that may adversely affect national harmony

Breakdown cultural stereotypes

Promote national identity

Increase wealth creation and productivity

Hopefully reduce crime in the long term

And make our nation a much more liveable place.





Send In Your **Articles** 

#### READING-THE MAKING OF A MAN

by Chetanna Nwoke



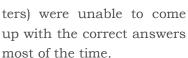
I was invited a few years ago to give a short

presentation at a Christian gathering. For my charge, I was given free rein to speak on any topic of my choosing. Upon some reflection, I elected to touch on the importance of erudition for the patient. I remember making the impassioned case that as a matter, of course, individuals afflicted by disease ought to become as learned as possible on the subject of their affliction.

At the end of the event, the pastor, while thanking me for my delivery, expressed to me his preference for a more practical topic- diabetes, perhaps, or hypertension. The disappointment I felt was profound. I hold the pastor in very high esteem. If even he did not appreciate what I was trying to get across, then it was safe to assume I had just wasted a third of an hour on the podium that evening.

This anecdote typifies the station of the Christian today. In private conversation, I have often thrown up the question of who the authors of Job, Esther, and Hebrews are. This is often no more than an idle exercise, but it is telling that

these spiritually mature Christians, friends of mine, (many of whom have gone on to become ordained minis-



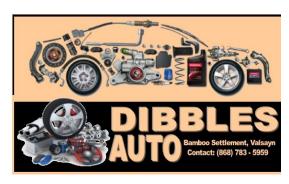
Even the easier question of what the original languages of the Old and New Testaments are very often are struggled with. So if a Christian does not know that the oldest available scripts for the New Testament are in Greek, what else do they not know? These bits of knowledge will not ensure eternal reprieve to the believer, but it has long unsettled me how anyone could presume to hold strong views on doctrinal points based on a grasp of the texts which could be vastly improved upon.

Apparently, this frustration with ignorance is old as the hills. The apostle Paul freely admitted in his first epistle to the Christians in Corinth that their immaturity was responsible for the

impediment that was present to their discourse. (1st Corinthians 3:1-3) As the remedy for said immaturity, 'the pure milk of the word' is recommended. (1st Peter 2:2-3) Paul himself spent 3 years in the Arabian desert, presumably in the study of the scriptures as a preparation for the launch of his ministry.

Not even Jesus was exempt from the burden of study. We see him as a child 'teaching the doctors and asking them questions' (Luke 2:46) to the exasperation of his parents. The concatenation of events leading up to his triumph against Satan in the wilderness provides a textbook example of what is expected of the believer under trial. His nimble and precise repudiations provided sniper shot against which the devil had no cover.

This bulwark is available only to the Christian who has thoroughly familiarized himself with the written word. Even His off-the-cuff response to Judas' concern about wasteful use of money re the alabaster jar was taken from scripture. (Deuteronomy 15:11) When faced with Pharisees who ignorantly misapplied God's word



on the resurrection, Jesus bluntly rebuked them for 'not knowing the scriptures....' (Matthew 22:29)

There are Christians who scoff at fellow believers with ideas from the scripture parallel to what they believe, accusing them of lacking in 'rhema' or revelation. This practice is common in Nigeria my native land, and it reeks of intellectual laziness. If the rhema were indeed the only standard, then why would the written word have been given, to begin with? We all might as well carry on with our lives, waiting on divine revelation. As it happens, that is not the example we have from our forebears. So I have to reject that model, sticking to the 'ancient landmarks' of rote-learning scripture.

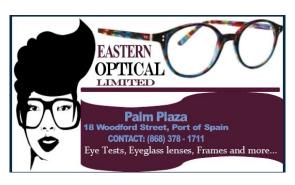
It is fair to say there are things we will never truly understand our sojourn through time. However, if the great patriarchs of our faith studied the scriptures, then we have no excuse really. Not only should our doctrinal positions be inspired 'sola scriptura' (2nd Timothy 3:16-17), but also our positions on hot-topic issues of the day. (2 Timothy 2:15) The Christian should not be ashamed to provide sound scripture-based opinions burning issues we face- marriage/divorce, criminal justice, immigration, socialism, sexuality/LGBTQ, etc.

The confidence with which to confront the ungodly ideas of the radical left will be developed in the mind of the Christian who has taken the pain to be renewed by the word. Even the witnessing of a grounded Christian is more effective. I made earlier mention of Paul's 3 years spend in the desert. It comes as no surprise that he is today arguably more influential than any other apostle.

This is in spite of the default disadvantage of having not known Jesus in the flesh as the Twelve did. The everyday gospel lines of 'Repent and be Saved' and 'Jesus loves you' are insufficient in our present fast-paced world. Christmas is upon us, for example. No one does not know what it is about Jesus, whatever they may think of Him.

The Christian discourse, on the whole, should progress from basic doctrine to deeper things like Prophecy and the fate of the dead. That is the 'meat' spoken about by several NT writers that becomes the mature Christian.

I will end this offering with a favourite rhyme of my mother's by Francis Bacon:

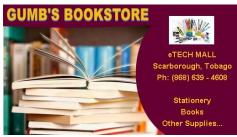










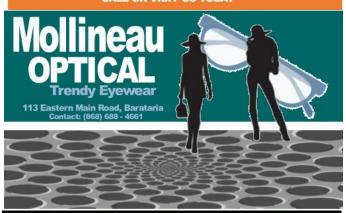


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## The Tongue

By: Diana Downes-Alleyne

I have a member of my body situated above the chin,

It is wet and resting, but can be quite disgusting, for it always wants to win,

Any controversy or arguments it wants the last say. Now let the next line take the liberty to tell you what the bible says.

A member quite unruly, full of deadly poison can be. But with the blood of Jesus, it can be set free,

It can bring joy and laughter to a person's face, or bring sadness, repulse or anger, how you use it sets the pace.

Careful how you use this little member. For it can set a world of fire.

But with the Holy Ghost, it can bring change. Too many who may be in chains?

Have you been using this member righteously? Search yourself and consider through,

See if you have been to your brother really, really true. Let the Lord purge that member,

It can become humble as ever, humble to apologize, humble to realize that it needs a Saviour to keep it saying the things that are true. This member brings salvation to the soul when it confesses that Jesus is Lord.

Demons bow when the right



Then do remember to give thanks and praise to the one who reigns, All of your days let

praise remain and you will nev-

shall receive ", all the things

that you have need,

er, never be the same

Scriptural Reference James 3:8-10

things are said, like "I'm the head and not the tail"

I'm more than a conqueror", "I rebuke you Satan the devourer".

In the name of Jesus Christ the Lord learn to fight your battles with the word,

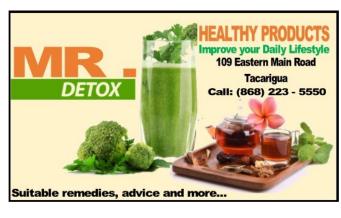
Remember death and life lies in the power of the tongue, think of what you say,

It is you who pave your way, so be careful what you say. Don't use this member negatively,

Say positive things and you'll see, the things that seem unchangeable will magically change,

If you constantly let positive words in your mouth remain. Don't forget, use it to pray for it is from this member we are blessed all the way, For the good Master said" asks and ye







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